

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: **Luigi Resconi et al.** )  
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Serial No.: **Unknown** )  
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Filed: **March 3, 2005** )  
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US National Phase of International Patent )  
Application No: **PCT/EP2003/009183** )  
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Filed: **August 19, 2003** )  
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March 3, 2005

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This is a preliminary amendment to FE 6048(US), filed herewith, which is the US National Phase of the International Patent Application No. PCT/EP2003/009183, filed on August 19, 2003, and claiming priority to European Patent Application 02078739.6 filed September 6, 2002.

International Application No. PCT/EP2003/009183 was published under PCT Article 21 in English.

Please amend the above-identified U.S. Patent Application, as follows: